THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) During the current year (upto 1st July, 2000) 259 cases of rape were reported in Delhi. In two cases, victims were foreigners who were allegedly also cheated, Out of the 259 reported cases, 235 cases have been worked out in which 327 persons have been so far arrested.

Conversions in Tamil Nadu

1154. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that mass religious conversions are getting reported from Southern Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details of the information available with Government; and

(c) the steps proposed by Government to check repetition of Meenakshipuram incident of 1983?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) No such report of mass conversions in Southern Tamil Nadu has been received.

(c) Does not arise, in view of (a) and (b) above.

Militant Outfits in J and K

1155. SHRI CM. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the militant groups and outfits operating in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) the details of such groups banned under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act or other such law, in respect of which such ban has been withdrawn or allowed to lapse; and

(c) whether any talks with such groups have been held or arranged, if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Laskar-e-Toiba, Hizab-ul-

Mujahideen, Harkat-ul-Mujahideen, Tehrik-uI-Mujahideen, Harkat-e-Jehad-Islami and Al-Bader are some of the significant militant' terrorist outfits in Jammu and Kashmir. None of them has been banned. Earlier Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front was banned under the unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 vide Notification dated 17.02.1998, which was valid upto 16.02.2000.

(c) No such talks have been held. However, having welcomed the move towards peace made by a Senior HM (Hizbul Muzahidin) leader during a press conference on 24 July, 2000 and having taken cognizance of the support extended to the peace initiative by the people of J and K, as also recognising the need for restoration of peace in J and K, the Government would like the HM leadership to come overground and establish contact with the Union Home Secretary to discuss modalities necessary for initiating a dialogue and preparing grouds for restoratin of peace. The Government would like to invite all militant groups and political leaders to come forward to restore peace and normalcy in the State of J and K.

Violence in North-East

1156. SHRI CM. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether North-Eastern States again witnessed a spate of incidents of violence with militants coming into clash with the security forces and extremists perpetrating violance on civilians during May and June this year;

(b) if so, the number and details of the incidents indicating the number of militants, civilans and security personnel killed and injured; and

(c) the steps taken to effectively prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) There has been some increase in militant actitivites in certain States of the North East reasion during the recent past.